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45. (Amended) An apparatus for selecting one of a plurality of transmission systems for transmitting an input signal captured by a remote device comprising:

a detector for detecting one or more available transmission systems;

a control processor for receiving and storing priority data, said priority data comprising programmed security characteristics relating to each of said plurality of transmission systems;

wherein upon receipt of said incoming signal, said control processor extracts stored priority data relating to said available transmission systems and, utilizing said priority data, defines a prioritization hierarchy for use in selecting which of said available transmission systems to utilize; and

a connector for connecting the device to the transmission system interface selected by said control processor as having the highest available priority based on said priority data.

46. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 45 further comprising a verification device for confirming the operability of the selected transmission system, once detected, and wherein the control system is operable to select a default transmission system whenever the transmission system selected as having the highest priority is inoperable.

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48. (Amended) An apparatus in accordance with claim 45 wherein said detector comprises a switch having an activated position and a deactivated position, and wherein the presence of said highest available priority transmission interface engages the switch to move it from the deactivated position to the activated position.

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58. (Amended) An apparatus for selecting one of a plurality of transmission systems for transmitting an input signal captured by a remote device, comprising:

a detector for detecting one or more available transmission systems;

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a control processor for receiving and storing priority data, said priority data comprising programmed security characteristics relating to each of said plurality of transmission systems;

wherein upon receipt of said incoming signal, said control processor extracts stored priority data relating to said available transmission systems and, utilizing said priority data, defines a prioritization hierarchy for use in selecting which of said available transmission systems to utilize; and

a connector for connecting a portable handset transceiver of said apparatus to the transmission system interface selected by said control processor as having the highest available priority based on said priority data.